

THE CATAWBA COUNTY LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Minutes of August 11, 2015

The Catawba County Library Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, August 11, 2015, 12 Noon, in the Conference Room of the Main Library in Newton.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Amanda Edwards, Pat Gibson, Susan Hunsucker, Mary Bess Lawing, Kevin Moretz Brenda Sigmon, Carol Preston and Suzanne White, Library Director.

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

CALL TO ORDER

Brenda Sigmon, Vice-Chairman, called the meeting to order.

INTRODUCTIONS

Suzanne introduced Carol Preston, new appointed Library Board member, and welcomed her to the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public attended.

MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting, May 27, 2015, were approved as written.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Brenda Sigmon, Vice-Chairman, requested that nominations be made for new officers. Upon motions made and seconded, the following officers were elected unanimously:

Chairman – Brenda Sigmon

Vice-Chairman – Susan Hunsucker

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Main Library Refresh

- 75 percent furnishings have been delivered; new seating, shelving, end panels, tables, computer lab furniture
- Maiden Branch Library has new carpet and shelving

B. Staffing Update

- Upgrade of Library Assistant position to provide Spanish speaking outreach to the community. Soraya Place accepted position. She is scheduling meetings with customers, and she plans to participate in library outreach efforts, including the Big Read
- Reference position, Programming and Information Services Librarian vacated by Regina Reitzel, is in hiring process

- New position approved with Strategic Plan adoption by Commissioners, Digital Services Librarian job description is being reviewed by HR and will post soon

C. Community Garden Update

- Library community garden is in full swing, donating over 100 pounds in the last month to ECCCM and Corner Table; the ribbon cutting for the added reading garden was held July 22nd and was well-accepted

D. Strategic Plan

- Final completed Strategic Plan was presented to and adopted by the Board of Commissioners. A copy was distributed to the Library Board members, with the request that board members have a prominent role in its implementation through advocacy and facilitating connections to further the goals and objectives of the plan. The board was asked to review and brainstorm ways each could use their talents and skills to help further the plan

E. Big Read

- Catawba County Library will be partnering with the Green Room Theatre, Lenoir-Rhyne University, Hickory Public Library, Catawba Valley Community College, Catawba County Schools and others to read and provide programming centered around Harper Lee's "To Kill a Mockingbird", with a companion read of Bryan Stevenson's "Just Mercy"

F. Grant Projects

- **LSTA Access and Digitization-** RFID Project: continuation to Maiden, Conover, Claremont, Southwest branches is in the works
- **LSTA Literacy & Lifelong Learning** - Tech Connect: providing access to and training in cutting edge technology resources to bridge the digital divide, and enhance career readiness: including a manufacturing grade 3D printer, laser cutter, drafting software, go-pro camera, video editing software, etc.
- **ALA & NEH – Big Read:** Latino Americans: film, discussion and literacy events
- **BIG Read: NEA and UAC:** "To Kill a Mockingbird"
- **LSTA Edge:** Early Literacy Smart Table
- **LSTA :** ARSL Conference attendance, Brytani Fraser, Conover Librarian

G. Year-End Budget Outcome Report

- All 2014/15 Budget Outcomes were achieved

V. Other Business

- **NACo Awards:** Library received two NACo awards: Community Garden, Early Literacy Outreach
- **Library Foundation:** There was a discussion about establishing a Library Foundation. The discussion included the following: securing members with the resources and connections to

contribute and network in the community to raise funds, as well as members with the legal and financial expertise to facilitate activities required; possibility of meetings to be held quarterly; main role would be to fundraise and advocate for the library system

- **Newsletter/News Site:** a copy of the latest newsletter was distributed to the Board
- **Rising to the Challenge:** Book from the State Library, “Rising to the Challenge” was distributed to the Board members. Suzanne requested that board members read the book and plan to discuss it at the next Board meeting
- **Meeting Room Policy:** Suzanne informed the Board that the meeting room policy for the library was being reviewed and revised for increased access, as well as for the potential to offer afterhours access for the community at the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch, since the facility was built to accommodate this type of access requested by the community. The board discussed issues around the topic, and provided input, including an understanding of limited staffing, and the need to ensure security of the facility during unstaffed hours
- **Senior Outreach:** There was a discussion on needs for enhanced service and outreach for seniors
- Mary Bess Lawing complimented Suzanne and library staff for all the work they are doing

VI. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Next Regular Scheduled Library Board Meeting: Tuesday, November 10, 2015, Newton Library

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Shull